

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7484

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, RO

SUBJECT: WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS

REF: STATE 11775

1. DITULESCU OF MFA TOLD EMBOFFS THAT HE SAW NO OBSTACLES TO ARRANGING PROGRAM FOR WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS ALONG LINES SET FORTH IN REFTEL. WE AGREE WITH PROPOSED PROGRAM IN GENERAL BUT WOULD LIKE TO MAKE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS.

2. WE PROPOSE MEETINGS ONLY AT MFA AND MIN OF FOREIGN TRADE FOR AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 21. IF WHOLE GROUP IS INTERESTED IN TRANSPORTATION, MEETING AT MIN OF TRANSPORT COULD BE ARRANGED AS WELL, ALTHOUGH TIME MAY PROVE TO BE A PROBLEM IN VIEW OF RELATIVELY EARLY CLOSING TIMES FOR MOST ROMANIAN OFFICES. ALTERNATIVELY, THOSE INTERESTED IN TRANSPORTATION COULD SPLIT OFF FOR SEPARATE MEETING WHILE OTHERS ARE AT MIN OF FOREIGN TRADE. PLEASE ADVISE.

3. VISIT TO CARPATHIANS FEBRUARY 22 APPEARS FEASIBLE AS PROPOSED IN REFTEL, ALTHOUGH THERE MAY NOT BE TIME FOR BRAN CASTLE VISIT. STOPS AT MONASTERY AND, IF DESIRED, COLLECTIVE FARM CAN PROBABLY BE INCLUDED IN THIS EXCURSION. UPON RETURN OF GROUP TO BUCHAREST, WE PROPOSE TO DIVIDE THEM UP FOR INFORMAL DINNERS AT HOMES OF SEVERAL EMBOFFS. ROMANIAN GUESTS, INCLUDING EDITORS/JOURNALISTS, WOULD BE INCLUDED (WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO WORK IN ROMANIAN PRESS REPS IN THIS WAY RATHER THAN TO SET UP FORMAL

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MEETING).

4. FOR FEBRUARY 23 WE CAN ARRANGE FOR VISITS TO ORTHODOX CHURCHES FOR THOSE INTERESTED AND ALSO FOR ADDITIONAL SIGHTSEEING IN BUCHAREST. THOURS OF NEW NATIONAL THEATER COMPLEX AND AMERICAN LIBRARY MIGHT BE OF INTEREST AT THAT TIME, FOR EXAMPLE.

5. DITULESCU KNOWS OF GROUP'S DESIRE TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU AND WILL PASS THE WORK ON THROUGH APPROPRIATE CHANNELS. IT IS UNLIKELY, HOWEVER, THAT EMBASSY WILL LEARN UNTIL LAST MOMENT WHETHER OR NOT SUCH A MEETING CAN BE ARRANGED.

6. EMBASSY WILL MAKE FORMAL APPROACH TO MFA WITH SPECIFIC REQUESTS ONCE WE HAVE CONFIRMATION THAT FOREGOING IS ACCEPTABLE OR AFTER WE HAVE DEFINITIVE INFORMATION ABOUT PROGRAMMING DESIRES FROM DEPARTMENT. PLEASE ADVISE PROMPTLY.
MARTENS

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